

From: **Zonta District 12** info@zontadistrict12.org  
Subject: August 2021 Outreach Newsletter  
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To: [nulty@csdeo.com](mailto:nulty@csdeo.com)



## District 12 Outreach August 2021



**District 12 Zontians are invited to attend the District 12 Conference  
September 24-26, 2021  
Hosted by the Zonta Club of the Pikes Peak Area**

Masks will be required at all events and everyone is encouraged to be vaccinated before attending. We have not planned an on-line option. District officers, delegates and proxies must attend in person to vote.

Our theme “Empowering Women to Win” reflects Zonta’s mission and vision. Together we work locally and internationally, through service and advocacy, to impact in women’s lives and position them to fulfill their potential. The idea of winning fits perfectly with meeting in the home city of USA Olympics and Paralympics.

It is wonderful to be able to come together in person after a difficult year and a half. We will meet old and new friends and feel the Zonta fellowship and spirit.

REGISTER NOW FOR ZONTA DISTRICT 12 CONFERENCE at  
<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/155529832917>

## **Afghanistan Crisis**

Zonta International released a statement calling for immediate action to protect the rights and dignity of women and girls in Afghanistan after the Taliban seized power—read it at [Zonta.org](https://www.zonta.org/news-events/statements) under News and Events/Statements.,

Dawn Bali, President of the Zonta Club of Denver, is a Middle Eastern expert and speaks Persian/Farsi (similar to what they speak in Afghanistan, which is Dari). She has been following the region and Afghanistan since 1995. She sent the following to her club.

“We all know how vulnerable women and children are in less developed countries. Those who escape now from the Taliban have hope for a better future here. Please consider those left behind in your thoughts as they brave their new oppressed existence.

I have been researching/finding ways to support the refugees coming to Colorado and of course, women in particular. A handful of organizations are working locally. One in particular, I have reached out to the International Rescue Committee.”

Dawn goes on to say the organization has an office in Denver and is ready to train volunteers and collect household items on their donation list. She says Deb Beatty, Area 3 Director, will solicit support from other area clubs, perhaps leading to an Area 3 Service project.

I imagine most of us have seen articles or emails about ways to help refugees. in our local papers or on line. Helping Afghan refugees in the USA is certainly an appropriate Zonta club project. Clubs need use caution to be sure they work through reputable organizations experienced in assisting refugees.

## **International Women of Courage Awards**

On March 8, Secretary of State Anthony Blinken hosted the 15th annual International Women of Courage Awards in a virtual ceremony honoring women nominated by U.S. embassies around the world for making a difference in their communities, their countries, or the world.

It was an extraordinary opportunity to bring international attention and support to women who have put their lives and/or personal safety at risk in order to improve their societies and inspire fellow citizens.

To learn more about these remarkable women go to:

<https://womenofcourage.state.gov>

Dawn also forwarded this information:

## **Voices of Afghan Women**

Sign up to Watch These Films at No Cost Through August 31, 2021!

As we watch the Taliban take over in Afghanistan with heavy hearts, we are making a selection of films that highlight the voices and lived experiences of Afghan women available to watch at no cost for a limited

that highlight the voices and lived experiences of Afghan women available to watch at no cost for a limited time. In the midst of the political tumult and our fear for women's lives and rights, it's important for all of us to know more about the country and the lives of women who live there -- to see their struggles as well as their incredible triumphs over the last 20 years. From the story of the first woman member of the Parliament of Afghanistan to the first women video journalists in the country, from the story of a woman fighting against sexual abuse and winning in the courts to the triumph of Sonita over child marriage, the films in this collection demonstrate what Afghan women have accomplished in a generation. This context is important as we contemplate how to support women in Afghanistan moving forward.

In response to this important moment, we are making the films available to watch at no cost through September 12, 2021.

[www.wmm.com/voices-of-afghan-women-virtual-screening/](http://www.wmm.com/voices-of-afghan-women-virtual-screening/)

### **Share Your Story on ZI Website**

Zonta International encourages clubs to post stories about their events and projects the ZI website under Share Your Story. This is a way to find out what exciting things other clubs are doing that we might want to try and to brag about the great work we do.

To post a story:

Click on My Zonta

Menu at right has Share Your Story button, click on it

To read a story:

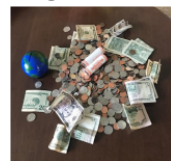
Click on Our Programs then Local Service and Advocacy

Recently three of our clubs have been posting:

- Zonta Club of Cheyenne posted about their pancake breakfast to share information about human trafficking and their campaign to end violence against women.
- Zonta Foothills Club posted about their creation of an Educational Fund for Golden Z Club members and the work the Panther Z Club has done to educate about COVID 19 vaccinations. The last one was picked up and reported in a ZI online newsletter.
- Zonta Club of Fort Collins posted about their Facebook Live event for Domestic Violence month.

### **Fun Way to Collect for Zonta Foundation for Women**

Denise Parrish gave Cheyenne Zontians a globe bank and asked them to put away some change that would go to the Foundation. Months later, at their July picnic, they emptied their banks. This was the result. Their club Foundation Ambassador says it was \$289.20.



### **Climate Change - A Gender Equality Issue**

Zonta International has issued a paper on climate change and its negative impacts on women and girls. To see the whole paper go to: [Zonta.org/News and Events/Zonta Statements](http://Zonta.org/News and Events/Zonta Statements)

From the Statement:

“The consequences of climate change are severe, especially for poor and vulnerable groups in developing countries. From natural disasters to food security, health, access to clean water and migration, in several parts of the world, our changing climate already has severe implications for women and girls. As families strive to cope with these changes, they may resort to negative coping mechanisms, forcing girls to leave school or marry early. Risk for gender-based violence also increases. Understanding climate change as a human rights issue is central to the fight against climate change, but also to create a sustainable, gender-equal future.”

### **VOCA—Victims of Crime Act**

The VOCA Fix to Sustain the Crime Victims Fund Act, was signed into law in July, 2021. Originally passed in 1984, the measure gathers fines and penalties paid by convicted federal criminals into a fund that spreads money to organizations helping the victims of crimes. But the amount of money in the fund has dropped 92% since 2017, as “non-prosecutorial agreements” and “deferred prosecution agreements” kept money from going into the fund. This measure is vital for domestic abuse survivors and their children.

### **Amelia Earhart Fellows at the University of Colorado**

This year there are two Amelia Earhart Fellows studying at the University of Colorado in Boulder.

#### **Yashica Khatri**

Ms. Khatri’s research with the Celestial and Spaceflight Mechanics Laboratory (CSML) is focused on modeling the dynamical uncertainty of objects in space. When evaluating objects like defunct satellites where location has to be determined using observations from other satellites or ground stations, this uncertainty propagation is extremely important because the positioning errors are higher. She has been testing this to analyze collision probability to predict orbital debris collisions.

Ms. Khatri hopes to inspire more youth to pursue aerospace careers by serving as a mentor in aerospace outreach programs. She has supported the establishment of and worked with several science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) organizations in the United States and India. She enjoys reading, painting and traveling. In the last year, she has picked up some new hobbies, including boxing and learning Italian.

#### **Jami Voros**

Ms. Voros works in the Bioastronautics laboratory. Designing for humans in aerospace is a fundamental part of her research. Ms. Voros’ master’s thesis focused on demonstrating that stimulating the vestibular system elicits improvements in visual thresholds. Such improvements could be useful in operational environments where the ability to sense extremal small changes in the visual scene is critical (e.g., piloting a spacecraft). Her Ph.D. work focuses on creating a computational model of human perception that incorporates visual, tactile and vestibular cues for processing. The model would be useful for better understanding and designing control systems for complex aircraft and spacecraft. Ms. Voros enjoys outdoor activities such as hiking, cycling and climbing



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